

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12

CU-02 AID-05 OPR-02 OC-05 CCO-00 SCCT-01 A-01 SY-05

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R 191004Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL KADUNA

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3286

AMCONSUL IBADAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KADUNA 0185

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, NI

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN NORTH

REF: KADUNA 178

1. IN CONTRAST TO REPORT FROM IBADAN (IBADAN 117) THAT NON-YORUBA PEOPLE LEAVING FOR HOME, CONSULATE/USIS SENIOR LOCALS UNANIMOUSLY TELL US THAT NON-HAUSA/FULANI PEOPLES SHOWING NO INTENTION OF LEAVING KADUNA OR ZARIA AREAS. HAVE HAD ONE REPORT THAT, AS LATE AS TUESDAY, AUTOS IN KANO BEARING LICENSE PLATES FROM BENUE-PLATEAU STATE (MIDDLE-BELT REGION FROM WHICH DIMKA COMES) WERE BEING STONED IN ISOLATED INCIDENTS. WIFE OF KANO EXPATRIATE BUSINESSMAN IN TELECON WITH CONSULATE WIFE YESTERDAY SAID NOT TO BELIEVE MEDIA REPORTS THAT ALL CALM IN KANO, SITUATION THERE SUFFICIENTLY TENSE THAT MOST FOREIGNERS STAYING HOME TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE.

2. SENIOR USIS LOCAL VISITED ABU YESTERDAY. HE REPORTS THAT WHILE STUDENTS PLAN CLASS-FREE DAY FOR FEBRUARY 23, NO INDICATION THUS FAR THAT DEMONSTRATION PLANNED. (AS OF YESTERDAY MORNING KADUNA POLICE KNEW NOTHING OF PLANS FOR

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CLASS-FREE DAY AND WERE SCEPTICAL THAT IT WOULD BE PERMITTED.)

3. CONSULATE MAINTAINING CLOSE CONTACT WITH SENIOR POLICE OFFICIALS WHO CONTINUE ASSURE US THAT THERE WILL BE NO DEMONSTRATIONS PERMITTED. BRITISH DHC RECEIVED SAME ASSURANCE FROM POLICE YESTERDAY. GOVERNMENT/POLICE RATIONALE IS THAT KADUNA AREA IS NIGERIA IN MICROCOSM WITH TRIBES FROM ALL OVER COUNTRY REPRESENTED. ANY TROUBLE STARTING HERE COULD EASILY SPREAD; THEREFORE POLICE DETERMINED TO AVOID SLIGHTEST OPENING. THEY INDICATE THAT ATTITUDES OF STUDENT LEADERS POSITIVE TO LINE BEING TAKEN BY POLICE--THAT THEY (STUDENTS) RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE WHO COULD BE RELIED UPON TO PUT ON "PEACEFUL" DEMONSTRATION BUT "IRRESPONSIBLES" STREETBOYS, ETC. WOULD INEVITABLY BE ATTRACTED TO ANY MANIFESTATION AND SITUATION COULD GET OUT OF HAND TOO EASILY.
BURKE

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